

# The Columbus Courier

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## Columbus is Now A Dry Town

Mayor Orders All Clubs Closed Nine Organizations Affected, Lid is Now On Tight

The nine clubs which have been operating in Columbus and which were disposing of liquors to their members were ordered closed Tuesday evening by the Mayor, Dr. T. H. Dabney. The order was enforced immediately by Sheriff W. C. Simpson, personally, and again it is impossible to buy a drink of anything stronger than gingerale or grape juice in Columbus.

A meeting for the purpose of coming to some agreement as to the disposition or rights of the clubs was held in the mayor's office Tuesday evening, the Village trustees, J. L. Greenwood, Major Sample, Captain Pearson, Jack Thomas, Assistant district attorney Vaught, Sheriff W. C. Simpson, T. A. Hulsey and Fred Sherman being present.

Major Sample, the commanding officer of the base, was asked to make a statement in regard to his views as to the presence of the clubs. He stated that he was doing everything in his power to keep the men in his command up to the highest possible degree of efficiency. There is about 500 civilian employees in addition to the soldiers and the clubs were located around the places where the most of his men were employed. The temptation to go over and take a drink occasionally was too much for many of them to overcome, and as a result large numbers of the men were unable to give the service that was expected of them. The Major said that some restriction or a complete extermination of the clubs must be accomplished at once or he would be compelled to take steps himself to stop them.

Mr. Vaught and also Mr. Sherman made short talks on the subject of the legality of the clubs. They maintained that as this territory had been voted dry, that a city ordinance had been adopted forbidding the sale of liquors, every sale made was a violation of the law, and that their charters and licence did not in any way give them the authority to sell booze in dry territory, and that if the trustees gave their sanction to such a business they were also violating the law.

The trustees took the matter under consideration and voted to order the clubs closed immediately, and Dr. Dabney gave the order to Sheriff Simpson, who

## Y. M. C. A. Building for Columbus

Columbus will have a permanent Y. M. C. A. building, according to W. H. Day, interstate secretary, who has just returned from national Y. M. C. A. conference at Cleveland, Ohio. Construction will begin at once on the new building, the funds for which will be advanced from the money subscribed in the recent budget fund campaign in the Y. M. C. A. of El Paso.

## Soldier Murdered by Woman

Fred Grimes, of Company C, 20th Infantry, was killed by a woman in the red light district Sunday night. The shot was fired from a revolver, the ball taking effect in the right shoulder, passing into the lungs and into the heart, death resulting instantly. The woman was taken to Deming Tuesday afternoon to await the action of the grand jury.

A. J. Evans, the local agent for the Ford, sold a car last week to E. O. Johnson, proprietor of the pool hall in the old Moody building.

W. I. Hobbs, of the Sunnyside district, made a business trip to El Paso Tuesday, returning home Wednesday.

proceeded at once to close up every club in town.

The names of the clubs affected by this order were the Benvolent Order of Bees, The Loyal Order of Moose, Fraternal Order of Grizzly Bears, Camp Purlong Social Club, Punitive Expedition Social Club, N. C. O. Social Club, Frontier Social Club, and San Juan Social Club. Two or three other clubs were being organized at the time the order went into effect.

One of these clubs had been in operation for more than two years and in all possibilities this club would have been allowed the privilege of selling its members booze had not the matter been over done. No one club would sell a man booze enough to intoxicate him, but when a man belonged to three or four of the organizations and tried to make each one in a single night he was very apt to get loaded before he got to the last one. Taking all circumstances into consideration the people generally are in sympathy with the trustees in closing the lid on the booze proposition.

Of course there is the bootlegging problem, but Jack Thomas, chief of police, Sheriff Simpson, and other officers think that with the large number of men on duty here at all times this can be reduced to a minimum, if not completely wiped out.

## Columbus As It Is

Nearly every newspaper in the State of New Mexico has a representative in Columbus as a member of the militia. Of course they all send letters to their papers and many of them are very interesting. An article in the New Mexican by Captain Seligman, who is in command of the company from Santa Fe, headed "Columbus As It Is," says,

"The town is a typical frontier town, reminding you of the kind you see in the movies. Deputy sheriffs with their guns strapped to their hips; soldiers in uniform at every turn; motor trucks wheezing as they pass in and out daily newspaper correspondents and moving picture men in riding breeches and outlandish coats; vaudeville and picture shows that is the place. But, unlike the western town of the movies, there is no saloons!"

## We Sure Have, Bill

W. E. Holt, who is now editor of the Deming Graphic in the absence Clyde Earl Ely, a lieutenant in the New Mexico militia, in an article published last week says in part:

"Company I hurried to the aid of the stricken citizens of Columbus on the fatal morning of March 9th, and for that reason Columbus has a tender spot in its heart for the boys."

You are right Brother Holt, and if the opportunity ever presents itself Columbus will reciprocate.

## Test Well Down 100 Feet

The deep well being drilled on the Anderson place southwest of town by E. C. Kniffin has been put down 100 feet. The work has not been rushed on account of some equipment for the well rig which was ordered some time ago having not yet shown up. This stuff is expected every day and as soon as it arrives the drilling will proceed rapidly.

## Business Men, Attention

Tuesday, May 30th, having been designated as Decoration Day, and as preparations are being made to observe the occasion with an appropriate program, I respectfully request all places of business in the Village of Columbus to close at least during the services. The hour for holding this service will be announced by the pastor of the M. E. Church and I think that we should show our respects by closing our business houses for this short period.

T. H. DABNEY, Mayor

## Church Notes

The women of the Holy Trinity Mission have formed a Guild for mutual work in advancing the building fund of which it is hoped soon to put up a Parish House for the use of this newest Columbus Parish.

It is said in some directions that the one church where all Christians are welcomed at all services, should be enough for the town—but there is a future to be considered, and the up to date residents believe the best time to build for the future is right now. To express the situation with more vigor than elegance, "the best way to keep up with the procession, is to ride in the van."

When Rt. Rev. F. B. Howden, Bishop of the P. E. See of the State comes for a series of services May 31st, and June 1st, it is planned that the first service which will be in the evening of May 31st being Wednesday next, by the kindness of the chaplains of the U. S. Army the first service will be held in the church tent below headquarters. This service is for civilians as well as the soldiers, and will include the rites, Christening and Confirmation if there are any candidates for this important part of the Episcopal faith. One of the bands will give the church music, and it is probable that Chaplain Vincent from Silver City stationed here with the National Guard, will bring a quartet of the Guard to help with the vocal music. The hour cannot be determined at present, for this service but will be posted in convenient places, before the arrival of the Bishop, who will come so far for this service, it is hoped there will be a large attendance.

Among the officers elected at the meeting held with Mrs. J. Anderson of the newly organized Guild of Holy Trinity Mission for the coming six months, were Mrs. J. Anderson, President, Mrs. George Peters, vice president, and Mrs. Nelson, Secretary and Treasurer. The latter offices will be divided after the ensuing six months, as it is hoped the Guild membership will increase so much by that time that one member will find it impossible to attend to the double duties.

The Rev. C. H. Boddington presided over the elections which were unanimously carried.

The lawn social given by the Ladies' Guild of the Holy Trinity Mission at Mrs. George Peters' home for the benefit of the building fund of the proposed Episcopal Parish House was a great success notwithstanding the fact that the failure of the electric lights on Thursday night and the lack of moon prevented many Columbus people from going the distance to the attractive home of one of the few fortunate families who boast a lawn in this part of the country.

The members of the Ladies Aid and the W. C. T. Union, and many of the other residents of Columbus gave substantial aid in this affair and contributed much to the success by which \$20 will be added to the fund, which it is hoped will be when augmented by the bishops promised donations of \$50 sufficient to start building on the lots owned by the parish, almost immediately.

There is some talk of the members of the various societies in Columbus who work so harmoni-

## Memorial Day Program

The following program has been arranged for Memorial Day, Tuesday, May 30th:

9:30 a. m. Service at the Band Stand.

11:00 a. m. Decoration of the graves at Valley Heights Cemetery.

The following speakers will take part:

Chaplain Hillman, Chaplain Vincent, Mr. A. L. Taylor, Mr. Nye, Y. M. C. A., Rev. C. H. Boddington.

Music by the 13th Cavalry Band. The services will begin exactly at the hours stated above.

## Great Activity in Building

More buildings are under course of construction now than has ever been in Columbus at one time. There is at present three or four restaurants, a first class grocery, a good sized business house on main street, a real estate office, and many other business houses, in addition to a large number of dwellings being built. Construction work is soon to start on many other business houses, and from the present outlook Columbus is soon to be a real city.

## Columbus School Closes Term

The Columbus school closed Friday, there being no commencement exercises on account of the small attendance in the eighth grade due to the raid. Lingura Burkhead deserves special credit for having continued in school and having passed the examination for county diploma. This diploma entitles him to enter any high school in the state.

It is interesting to look back and review the progress made in the last nine months. School opened with an enrollment of 85 with four teachers. After the holidays the enrollment increased to such a number that another teacher was found necessary. By a rigid enforcement of the compulsory law the enrollment reached a maximum of 178, or more than 100 per cent increase.

Today's work concludes my connection with the Columbus schools. I voice the sentiment of the entire teaching force in saying that I fully appreciate every evidence of kindly interest that has been shown in welfare of the schools. With best wishes for an increased educational spirit and for a profitable and successful school term next year. R. E. Stivison.

Miss Grace G. Goebel, accompanied by Mrs. William Gaines and two children, and Miss Rebekah Coffin, of Hondaie, were visitors to Columbus Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. J. L. Walker is in El Paso this week for a week's visit with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Stivison left here Friday for Wellington, Kansas.

ously together, forming a Woman's Civic League, for the betterment of the town—for there are many things women can do to help in civic betterment, as is proven by their success in such movements in the big cities of the East.

## Commercial Hotel

### Will Be Rebuilt

Will Be Pressed Brick and Modern in Every Respect—Work Will Be Rushed

Construction started Friday morning on a modern and up to date hotel at the place where the old Commercial was destroyed by fire in the raid. The dimensions of the new building is 50 x 80 feet, two stories with a basement, and will be built with pressed brick.

It is to be a first class hostelry with all modern conveniences, steam heat, baths, etc., and will cost about \$15,000. The location near the depot is all that could be desired and there is no question but that it will be a good investment for the owner.

Sam Ravel is building the hotel and is to be complemented in giving the town this class of a building. He owned the hotel that was destroyed by the bandits and his loss was not less than \$25,000 and was not able to collect one cent of the insurance.

G. Crisamore has the contract and will complete the building just as soon as possible. He thinks that if no delay is encountered in securing the material he will have it ready for occupancy within sixty days.

That section of the town was completely wiped out by the fire, but it is rapidly being rebuilt, and will soon have a better appearance than ever. A barber shop was hauled down from Deming last week and set in position near the new hotel.

## Entertainment at Page Home

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Page entertained Wednesday evening in honor of their daughter, Miss Mary Field, who will leave early next week for an extended visit at the state of Florida. Miss Page will join a party of Florida people, now residents of El Paso, and go to New Orleans, from which city they will take a steamer for Tampa.

The guests at the farewell party were Mr. and Mrs. Boddington, Mr. and Mrs. Stivison, Mr. and Mrs. Riggs, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Jack, Mr. and Mrs. Calhoun, Mr. and Mrs. Weld, Misses Stanchfield, and Dabney, and Messrs Harris and Dean.

## CONTAINS MAP OF AREA AROUND COLUMBUS

Special interest attaches to a report just issued by the United States Geological Survey by reason of the accompanying detailed map of Luna County, New Mexico, which shows accurately the town of Columbus, and all the surrounding ranches, the town of Deming to the north, as well as the mountains and other natural features and the railroads of the area. The report is descriptive of the geology and particularly the underground water resources of the large valley in which Columbus and Deming lie. The report has special reference to the hundreds of wells in the valley, the water of which is used for irrigation. The depths of the wells are shown, and areas and approximate depths at which the drill will probably strike water.

A copy of the report, Bulletin 618, may be obtained free on application to the Director, U. S. Geological Survey, Washington, D. C.

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SAM RAVEL

COLUMBUS, New Mexico